

To: Barry, Michael[Barry.Michael@epa.gov]; Ostrander, David[Ostrander.David@epa.gov]
Cc: Jenkins, Laura Flynn[Jenkins.Laura@epa.gov]; Kappelman, David[Kappelman.David@epa.gov]; Smith, Paula[Smith.Paula@epa.gov]; Faulk, Libby[Faulk.Libby@epa.gov]
From: Peterson, Cynthia
Sent: Wed 10/7/2015 10:14:23 PM
Subject: RE: Adit Sampling DRAFT Messaging
GKM Adit Sampling Messages_06Oct15_v2 (2). cp edits.docx

All,

If we are going to release our data before La Plata County, I think we need to prepare folks that there may be some differences in the reported results. I added some language to that effect and had just a few edits.

Cynthia

Cynthia Peterson

Community Involvement Coordinator

Public Affairs and Community Involvement

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VIII

1595 Wynkoop St. (8OC-PAI)

Denver, CO 80202-1129

303-312-6879 -- direct dial

From: Barry, Michael
Sent: Wednesday, October 07, 2015 9:27 AM
To: Ostrander, David
Cc: Jenkins, Laura Flynn; Peterson, Cynthia; Kappelman, David
Subject: Re: Adit Sampling DRAFT Messaging

Roger that. Eu is working on the report. Cynthia has some revs to the messaging.

Thank you

Mike Barry

Gold King Response

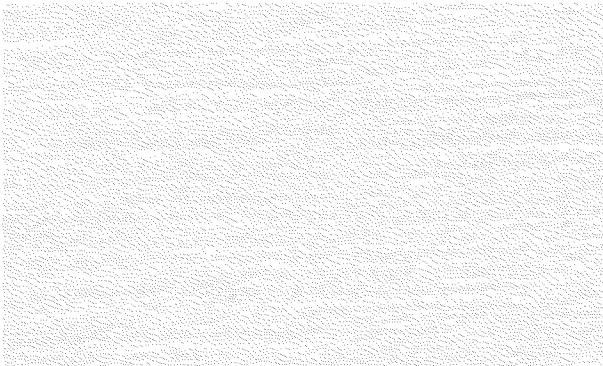
EPA Incident Commander

9/24-10/8 2015

Cell: 617.680.5466

Durango, Colorado

On Oct 7, 2015, at 9:23 AM, Ostrander, David <Ostrander.David@epa.gov> wrote:



Here are my revisions. I would like to see the data and determine how to refine the message.

Thanks

From: Barry, Michael

Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2015 3:06 PM

To: Ostrander, David

Cc: Jenkins, Laura Flynn; Peterson, Cynthia; Kappelman, David

Subject: FW: Adit Sampling DRAFT Messaging

Hi David,

Here is our draft messaging on the Mine Adit sampling. I know this was important to Shaun and Martin.

I know this is down on the list of issues in the cue, but we are getting pressure from La Plata Cty to provide them the results yesterday.

EUL tells me that he should have a simple report on the sample results that you asked for by tomorrow. We propose to provide the county the results in a simple spreadsheet that looks nice and this messaging. The final QA package will come later.

Thanks,

Mike

Mike Barry | Cell: 617.680.5466 | barry.michael@epa.gov

9/24 – 10/8/2015:

Incident Commander

Gold King Mine Response

Durango, CO

Travel on 10/9 to Permanent Duties:

Team Leader On-Scene Coordinator,

Emergency Response & Planning Branch

EPA Region 1, 5 Post Office Square, Suite 100 (OSRR02-2), Boston, MA, 02109

From: Jenkins, Laura Flynn

Sent: Tuesday, October 06, 2015 1:26 PM
To: Barry, Michael <Barry.Michael@epa.gov>
Cc: Kappelman, David <Kappelman.David@epa.gov>; Peterson, Cynthia <Peterson.Cynthia@epa.gov>
Subject: Adit Sampling DRAFT Messaging

Mike:

Attached here and embedded below is draft messaging on the GKM adit sampling. If you're okay with this revised version, please forward to Dave O for his consideration. If any further revisions are needed, please send to Cynthia Peterson for completion.

Thanks,

Laura Jenkins

Media Officer

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GOLD KING MINE ADIT SAMPLING

Messaging

At the request of La Plata County, EPA collected water and sediment samples at the adit (entrance portal) of the Gold King Mine on September 21, 2015. La Plata County and EPA contractors collected a second round of samples at the adit on September 29, 2015. EPA's understanding of La Plata's County's purpose in these collection efforts was for them to analyze discharge from the Gold King Mine for a wide variety of potential contaminants; including, among others, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), volatile organic compounds (VOCs), radionuclides, and metals. EPA has previously sampled the mine adit water for metals as they are related to the nature of the release. For the rationale on sampling the additional analytes, EPA would refer to La Plata County.

To date, EPA has received validated results for 30 of 42 analytes. Validated results for three additional analytes (nitrites, nitrates, and hexavalent chromium) are expected within the next week, while validated results for the remaining analytes (all radionuclides) are expected by early November.

Results to date for VOCs and PCBs are largely non-detects, meaning levels in the samples are below the lowest level of a given chemical that can be positively identified when using an approved analytical method. EPA expected these results for VOCs and PCBs, as these contaminants are not associated with activities at the Gold King Mine.

A range of metals were detected, several of which exceeded risk based criteria (RBC) for recreational exposure. These results were expected, and consistent with the nature of contaminants found in mining discharge; it's also important to note that recreational exposure is not a valid risk-based scenario to use in the case of the Gold King Mine adit sampling because the adit is not used for recreation. At downstream sampling location CC48, just north of Silverton, all metals continue to be below recreational RBCs and are consistent with pre-event conditions in the river.

As previously noted, validated results for radionuclides are not expected until early November. These analytes were included in the analysis at the request of La Plata County and the results will be provided to the County when available. Any questions related to the radionuclides should be directed to La Plata County.

Matrix	Date Samples Collected	Analyte	Method
Water	9/21/2015	Total Metals (TAL + Mo)	200.7/200.8
		Mercury	245.1
		PCBs	8082
		Dioxins	8290
		Total Uranium	6020
		Cyanide	SM4500-CN-E
		Nitrogen compounds (Nitrate)	300
		Nitrogen compounds (Nitrite)	300
		Nitrogen compounds (Ammonia)	SM4500NH3-G
		Nitrogen compounds (TKN)	351.2
		Chromium speciation (Total Cr)	6010
		Chromium speciation (Hexavalent Cr)	SM3500-CR-D
		VOCs	8260
		SVOCs	8270
		Radionuclides: Radium 226	903
		Radionuclides: Radium	904
		Radionuclides: Ur	A-01-R
		Radionuclides: Th by Alpha Spec	A-01-R
Sediment	9/21/2015	Total Metals (TAL + Mo)	6010C/6020A
		Mercury	7471A
		PCBs	8082
		Dioxins	8290
		Total Uranium	6020
		Cyanide	9012
		Nitrogen compounds (Nitrate)	9056
		Nitrogen compounds (Nitrite)	9056
		Nitrogen compounds (Ammonia)	350.1/DI leach
		Nitrogen compounds (TKN)	351.2
		Chromium speciation (Total Cr)	6010
		Chromium speciation (Hexavalent Cr)	7196
Water	9/29/2015	Nitrogen compounds (Nitrate)	300
Sediment	9/29/2015	Nitrogen compounds (Nitrate)	9056

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